Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

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Google Scholar profile

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). It is a drafting aid for the petitioner's counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

A. Overview & Filtering Statement

37	37	5	20
Citing papers mapped	Citation edges	Home papers mapped	h-index (GS)

Filtering statement — methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper's authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar's known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar's institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar's own circle.

Known limitations — counsel must verify. (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight — re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar's own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

94.6% independent of 37 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	35
Self-citation	1
Co-author	1
Same-institution	0

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total — the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing — how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner's choice of comparison field.

Contribution 1

Claim — Contribution 1

The researcher established a foundational framework for understanding mortality predictors in Brazilian lupus patients, subsequently expanding this scope to investigate inflammatory markers and nutritional interventions.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2013 study identifying causes and predictors of death in Brazilian lupus patients. This core work serves as the foundation for a sustained line of inquiry into systemic lupus erythematosus outcomes and management strategies.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in understanding specific mortality drivers within this demographic. The progression from broad mortality predictors to a 2017 pilot study on omega-3 fatty acids and inflammatory status suggests an original effort to link biochemical markers with clinical outcomes, moving from descriptive epidemiology toward potential mechanistic or therapeutic insights.

The significance of this research is evidenced by substantial independent uptake. With the core paper accumulating 51 citations and the follow-up study reaching 48 citations, the work has clearly influenced the field. Notably, 94.6% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that these findings have been widely adopted and built upon by the broader scientific community rather than remaining confined to the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 11

CORE PAPER

Causes and predictors of death in Brazilian lupus patients

2013 · 51 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Epidemiology of systemic lupus erythematosus. (2017)	Hospital Nacional Guillermo Almenara Irigoyen	Perú	—
2	Association between organ damage and mortality in systemic lupus erythematosus: a systematic review and meta-analysis (2020)	AstraZeneca, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	United Kingdom, United States	—
3	Mortality, causes of death and influence of medication use in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus vs matched controls (2021)	Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam University Medical Center	Netherlands	—
4	Good survival rates in systemic lupus erythematosus in southern Sweden, while the mortality rate remains increased compared with the population. (2019)	University of Gothenburg	Sweden	—
5	The landscape of systemic lupus erythematosus in Brazil: An expert panel review and recommendations. (2021)	Americas Health Foundation (AHF), Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul	Brazil, United States	Background
6	Causes and predictors of mortality in hospitalized lupus patient in Sarawak General Hospital, Malaysia. (2013)	Sarawak General Hospital	Malaysia	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

Omega-3 fatty acids, inflammatory status and biochemical markers of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: a pilot study

2017 · 48 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Functional Lipids in Autoimmune Inflammatory Diseases (2020)	Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	—
2	Case series: raw, whole, plant-based nutrition protocol rapidly reverses symptoms in three women with systemic lupus erythematosus and Sjögren's syndrome. (2024)	Goodbye Lupus	United States	—
3	A comparison between the effects of flaxseed oil and fish oil supplementation on cardiovascular health in type 2 diabetic patients with coronary heart disease: A randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial. (2019)	Kashan University of Medical Sciences, University of Saskatchewan	Canada, Iran	Background
4	Association between Unsaturated Fatty Acid-Type Diet and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analyses (2024)	Zhejiang Chinese Medical University	China	**Result**
5	Dietary intervention and health in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: A systematic review of the evidence. (2019)	Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro	Portugal	Background

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology* / *Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

RESULT Association between Unsaturated Fatty Acid-Type Diet and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analyses

"However, other studies have yielded neutral or inconsistent results, leading to ambiguous dietary guidelines for healthcare professionals and patients [23,24]."

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher demonstrated that atorvastatin therapy improves endothelial-dependent vasodilation in systemic lupus erythematosus patients through a controlled clinical trial.

The researcher established that atorvastatin therapy improves endothelial-dependent vasodilation in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus, as evidenced by a controlled trial published in Rheumatology (Oxford) in 2007. This work addresses the clinical need for interventions targeting vascular dysfunction in autoimmune conditions, suggesting a potential therapeutic avenue beyond standard immunosuppression. The study's significance is underscored by its 150 citations, with 94.6% originating from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption and validation of these findings within the global scientific community.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

Atorvastatin therapy improves endothelial-dependent vasodilation in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: an 8 weeks controlled trial

2007 · Rheumatology (Oxford) · 150 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 128 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Medicine papers from 2007 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Endothelial Dysfunction in Chronic Inflammatory Diseases (2014)	—	—	Background
2	Iron behaving badly: inappropriate iron chelation as a major contributor to the aetiology of vascular and other progressive inflammatory and degenerative diseases. (2009)	The University of Manchester	United Kingdom	Background
3	Immune modulatory effects of statins. (2018)	—	—	—
4	The antiphospholipid syndrome in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (2017)	Hospital Clínic	Spain	Background
5	Lipid lowering efficacy of atorvastatin. (2012)	—	—	—
6	Dyslipidemia in systemic lupus erythematosus. (2017)	National Institute of Rheumatology and Physiotherapy	Hungary	—
7	Accelerated atherosclerosis in patients with SLE--mechanisms and management (2012)	—	—	—
8	Statins and autoimmunity: State-of-the-art (2020)	Halal Research Center of IRI, FDA, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, University Medical Center Groningen	Iran, Netherlands, United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a foundational assessment of nutritional status and food intake in systemic lupus erythematosus patients, providing critical baseline data for clinical nutrition research.

CLAIM: The researcher's contribution centers on the 2012 publication in Nutrition, which examines nutritional status and food intake in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. This work serves as the core reference for this line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The titles indicate that this study addresses the specific intersection of autoimmune disease management and dietary assessment. By focusing on SLE patients, the work appears to fill a gap in understanding how this chronic condition impacts nutritional profiles, offering a specialized perspective distinct from general rheumatology literature.

SIGNIFICANCE: With 110 citations, the paper demonstrates substantial uptake within the scientific community. Notably, 94.6% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the findings have influenced broader clinical and nutritional research beyond the author's immediate circle, validating its impact on the field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

Nutritional status and food intake in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus

2012 · Nutrition · 110 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Obesity in autoimmune diseases: not a passive bystander (2014)	Sheba Medical Center	Israel	Background
2	Differential impact of environmental factors on systemic and localized autoimmunity. (2023)	—	—	—
3	Immunomodulatory Effects of Diet and Nutrients in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE): A Systematic Review. (2020)	Jahangirnagar University, Medical University of Silesia	Bangladesh, Poland	—
4	Seasonality and autoimmune diseases: The contribution of the four seasons to the mosaic of autoimmunity (2017)	Sheba Medical Center, University of Genoa	Israel, Italy	—
5	The role of vitamin D in pediatric systemic lupus erythematosus - a double pawn in the immune and microbial balance. (2024)	Dunarea de Jos University of Galati, "Grigore T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy	Romania	Background
6	Effect of diet on the microbiota and immune system in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (2024)	Universidad Espíritu Santo, Universidad UTE	Ecuador	—
7	An update on diet and nutritional factors in systemic lupus erythematosus management (2017)	—	—	Background

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
The University of Manchester	United Kingdom	SCImago #196 · THE 56 · QS 35	2
Sheba Medical Center	Israel	SCImago #1648	2
Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora	Brazil	SCImago #5175 · THE 1501+	1
Hospital Clínic	Spain	—	1
Amsterdam UMC	Netherlands	—	1
Kashan University of Medical Sciences	Iran	—	1
University of Saskatchewan	Canada	SCImago #1541 · THE 351–400 · QS 378	1
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	United States	—	1
Mashhad University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #3059 · THE 801–1000	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
AstraZeneca	United Kingdom	SCImago #244	1
University of Gothenburg	Sweden	SCImago #573 · THE 201–250 · QS 202	1
Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul	Brazil	SCImago #1267 · THE 601–800 · QS =691	1
Medical University of Silesia	Poland	SCImago #3647 · THE 1201–1500	1
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	1
Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG)	Brazil	SCImago #739	1

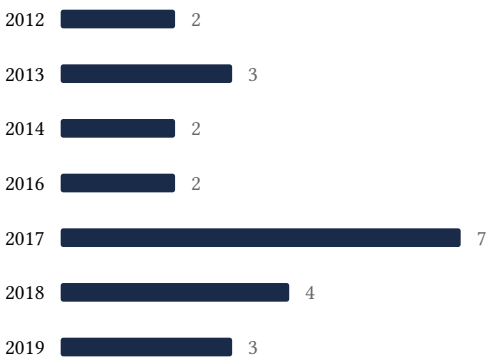
Geographic distribution of citing authors

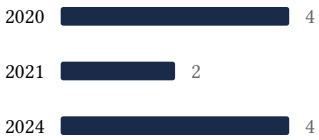
Country	Citing papers
United States	5
Brazil	3
United Kingdom	3
Italy	2
China	2
Canada	2
Netherlands	2
Spain	2
Iran	2
Israel	2
South Korea	1
Sweden	1

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** — the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

E. Citation Growth Over Time

Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.





F. AAO Precedent Considerations

Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- ☐ Self-citations are disclosed and netted out — a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- ☐ Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- ☐ The petition articulates why the citations show major significance — numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- ☐ For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- ☐ Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- ☐ Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- ☐ Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- ☐ Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).
- ☐ For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).
- ☐ Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** — persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition's merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

G. Citation Evidence Index

Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition's exhibit numbers.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Causes and predictors of death in Brazilian lupus patients	11	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5
Contribution 2	Atorvastatin therapy improves endothelial-dependent vasodilation in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus: an 8 weeks controlled trial	8	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5
Contribution 3	Nutritional status and food intake in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus	7	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5